



February 21, 2007

Representative Jore  
Montana State House of Representatives  
Education  
PO Box 200400  
Helena, MT 59620-0400

Chairman Jore and Members of the Committee:

Re: Support to HB733

Good afternoon, my name is Kristin Nei, representing the American Cancer Society. I ask for your support of HB733.

The HPV vaccine is a revolutionary development in the fight against cancer. It marks the *first-ever* vaccination to prevent any type of cancer.

Cervical cancer incidence and mortality are disproportionately high among medically underserved women, who may not have access to regular Pap tests. The vaccine has the potential to significantly reduce these disparities.

Studies show the vaccine has the potential to prevent up to 70 percent of the more than 11,150 invasive cervical cancers and 3,670 cervical cancer deaths expected in the U.S. in 2007.

The American Cancer Society recommends routine HPV vaccination for females ages 11 to 12 to help prevent cervical cancer and for females age 13 to 18 years to catch up missed vaccine or complete the vaccination series.

The Society supports the widest possible vaccination coverage consistent with Society guidelines and will work through education programs to ensure the widest coverage.

The vaccine may appear expensive to administer, but that cost pales in comparison to the \$3.5 billion spent on treating HPV-related cervical disease each year.

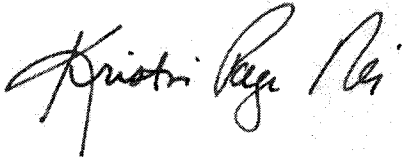
The Society supports states' efforts such as HB733 to increase use of the vaccine.

The Society does not have national policy on mandating vaccines for school attendance, however, the Society does support states' efforts to increase use of the vaccine.

We believe that as a result of this legislation more Montanans will learn what causes and how to prevent Human Papillomavirus. It is also our hope that educational materials will also educate on how to detect cervical cancer early.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue. Please support HB733.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristin Page Nei". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kristin" being the most prominent.

Kristin Page Nei  
Montana Government Relations Committee